

**Living by the Word
Amid Tribulation**
Psalm 119:17-24

Introduction:

- I. CALLS FOR **MEDIATION** (vv. 17-18)

- II. KNOWS **ALIENATION** (v. 19)

- III. PROMPTS **INCLINATION** (v. 20)

- IV. AWAITS **INTERVENTION** (v. 21)

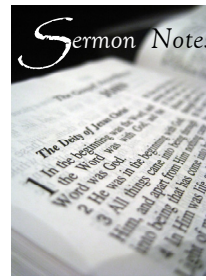
- V. DEALS WITH **ACCUSATION** (v. 22)

- VI. ENGENDERS **DETERMINATION** (vv. 23-24)



18 Open my eyes, that I may behold Wonderful things from Your law.

NAS - Psalm 119:18



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(con't)

Application of the Word:

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. "Man is born for trouble, as sparks fly upward" (Job 5:7). This is a truth known by both children of God and those who do not know Him as Lord and Savior. Yet as a child of God you know the trouble that comes to your life is God ordained, meaning He allows, He causes, He brings about these hard providences at times to draw us near to Him, to bring Him honor, to establish His good in our lives, and at times to discipline His own. Are you going through any trouble in your life as His child? Have you sought the encouragement and aid of fellow believers in the local church?
2. The Bible assures us that "we know that He hears us in whatever we ask" (1 Jn. 5:15). What have you been asking the Lord lately as His child? Do your requests include a petition for God to show you wonderful things from His Word? If not, how can you begin to include such a request in your prayers?
3. The psalmist in Psalm 119 describes the wicked as arrogant, insolent, proud, and as those who wander from God's commandments. Surely the wicked are still among us. What is God's will for us as we deal with unbelievers bent on exalting their wicked ways? How do we pray for them? What can we learn from the psalmist as he dealt with them in his day?
4. The psalm brings up the discussion of "princes" (NASB) or "rulers" (NIV). The psalmist faced opposition at the highest level. As we are in the midst of an election year for the President of the U.S., many can be given to worry and concern for the future. What is the posture and attitude of a child of God in these days? What does the Bible say about rulers and governing authorities in general? What is our responsibility before God? Where did the psalmist find comfort and ease amid opposition at the highest level?
5. From this psalm we can see that the psalmist devotes himself to prayer and to the Word of God. They are the two pillars of any faithful follower of God. This psalm is a prayer to none other than the One True God. This psalm also shows a man devoted to God's Word amid troubled times. In fact he says that he delights in it. He finds comfort in it. How are you doing in these two activities of prayer and of being in the Word? How can you excel even more this week to devote yourself to prayer and to God's Word?

Here are some books which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths in today's sermon. While Pastor Richard cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe that these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

- ◆ **John MacArthur**, *How to Study the Bible* (Moody, 2009)
El Poder de la Palabra y Cómo Estudiarla (Portavoz, 2010)
- ◆ *Moments of Truth: Unleashing God's Word One Day at a Time* (Thomas Nelson, 2012)
Las lecturas diarias de MacArthur: Desatando la verdad de Dios un día a la vez (Grupo Nelson, 2013)
- ◆ **Paul David Tripp**, *A Shelter in the Time of Storm: Meditations on God and Trouble* (Crossway, 2009)

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